(a) whether Government are aware that the smuggling of cattle is being done on a large scale on Indo-Bangladesh border as per the report of Zee News at 9.00 PM on 7th February, 2002;

(b) if so, the persons involved in smuggling and the steps so far taken by Government to stop it; and

(c) by when the smuggling would be completely stopped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Reports received indicate the involvement of persons including residents of border villages in smuggling of cattle. In order to check such activities, the following steps are being taken to stop smuggling of cattle and other illegal activities on the border:-

(i) Round-the-clock surveillance of the border by patrolling;

(ii) Erection of fence along the Indo-Bangladesh border;

(iii) Conduct of special operations;

(iv) Up-gradation of intelligence network;

(v) Use of night-vision devices;

(vi) Augmentation of strength for patrolling/naka duties; and

(vii) Forward shifting of BOPs and OP Towers for better observation.

**Outstanding Dues of NDMC and MCD**

†2188. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outstanding dues of NDMC and MCD on Embassies, State Bhawans and Departments of Central Government in terms of electricity, water charges and property tax;

(b) whether NDMC has urged the Centre for its intervention for recovery of their outstanding amount; if so, the decision taken by Government on NDMC's request; and

(c) the action Government will take for recovery of dues at the earliest from the same and by when?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) The outstanding dues on account of electricity and water charges in so far as NDMC is concerned are as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Embassies | Rs. 2.7 |
| 2. | State Bhawans | Rs. 0.2 |
| 3. | Central Government Departments | Rs. 26.6 crores |

While, the electricity and water charges in the area under jurisdiction of Municipal Corporation of Delhi are neither levied nor collected by the Corporation, such properties are exempt from payment of property tax.

(b)and (c) New Delhi Municipal Council have not specifically sought the intervention of the Central Government in the matter of recovery of dues on account of electricity and water charges outstanding against the Embassies and Central/State Government buildings. However, NDMC had made a proposal for levy of property tax on Embassies which was not agreed to on the ground that levy of such tax with respect to the embassies is not permissible under international conventions.

**Scheme for protection of senior citizens in Delhi**

2189. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has directed the Delhi Police to formulate a scheme for the protection and well-being of the senior citizens in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any scheme has since been drawn up for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (d) The High Court of Delhi and in a Criminal Writ Petition No. 723/2000 directed, *inter alia*, that the Station Houses Officers and the Division Officers of Delhi Police should maintain separate